

# REGULATIONS FOR TAKING SHELLFISH

## APPLICABILITY

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Regulations in this section apply to subsistence taking of dungeness crab, king crab, tanner crab, shrimp, clams, abalone and other shellfish or their parts.

Shellfish may be taken for subsistence uses at any time in any area of the public lands by any method unless restricted by the subsistence fishing and shellfish regulations.

## METHODS, MEANS AND GENERAL RESTRICTIONS FOR THE TAKING OF SHELLFISH

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- The harvest limit specified herein for a subsistence season for a species and the State harvest limit set for a State season for the same species are not cumulative. This means that a person or designated group who has taken the bag limit for a particular species under a subsistence season specified herein may not after that take any additional shellfish of that species under any other harvest limit specified for a State season.
- Unless otherwise provided below, gear specified in the definitions under **Subsistence Taking of Finfish** regulations is legal for subsistence taking of shellfish.
- It is prohibited to buy or sell subsistence-taken shellfish, their parts or their eggs, unless otherwise specified.
- The use of explosives and chemicals is prohibited, except that chemical baits or lures may be used to attract shellfish.
- Each subsistence fisherman shall plainly and legibly inscribe his/her first initial, last name and address on a keg or buoy attached to unattended subsistence fishing gear. Subsistence fishing gear may not display a permanent ADF&G vessel license number. The keg or buoy may be any color except red. In addition to these marking requirements, kegs or buoys attached to subsistence crab pots must also be inscribed with the name or U.S. Coast Guard number of the vessel used to operate the pots.
- A side wall of all subsistence shellfish pots must contain an opening with a perimeter equal to or exceeding one-half of the tunnel eye opening perimeter. The opening must be laced, sewn or secured together by untreated cotton twine or other natural fiber no larger than 120 thread. Dungeness crab and shrimp pots may have the pot lid tiedown straps secured to the pot at one end by untreated cotton twine no larger than 120 thread as a substitute for the above requirement.
- No person may mutilate or otherwise disfigure a crab in any manner which would prevent determination of the minimum size restrictions until the crab has been processed or prepared for consumption.
- No more than 5 pots per person and 10 pots per vessel may be used to take crab.
- In the subsistence taking of shrimp in the Glacier Bay National Preserve, no person may use more than 10 pots, and no more than 20 pots may be operated from a vessel. In the subsistence taking of shellfish other than shrimp in the Glacier Bay National Preserve, no person may operate more than 5 pots of any type, and no more than 10 pots of any type may be operated from a vessel.
- Use of aircraft for access to or from lands and waters within a national park or monument is prohibited for purposes of taking shellfish for subsistence (limited exceptions apply - contact the National Park Service).
- Use of off-road or all-terrain vehicles in national parks, monuments, or preserves for purposes related to subsistence taking of shellfish is prohibited (limited exceptions apply - contact the National Park Service).

## ***SUBSISTENCE TAKE BY COMMERCIAL VESSELS***

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No fishing vessel which is commercially licensed and registered for shrimp pot, shrimp trawl, king crab, tanner crab or dungeness crab fishing may be used for subsistence take during the period starting 14 days before an opening until 14 days after the closure of a respective open season in the area or areas for which the vessel is registered.

## ***UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF SUBSISTENCE SHELLFISH***

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Shellfish or their parts taken in violation of these regulations may not be possessed, transported, given, received or bartered.

## ***SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA-YAKUTAT AREA REGULATIONS***

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### ***Customary and Traditional Use Determination***

All rural residents.

### ***Regulations***

Shellfish may be taken for subsistence purposes in the Glacier Bay National Preserve only under the authority of a subsistence shellfish fishing permit.

## ***COOK INLET AREA REGULATIONS***

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### ***Customary and Traditional Use Determination***

All rural residents.

### ***Regulations***

All waters within the boundaries of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge are closed to the taking of shellfish for subsistence purposes.

## ***KODIAK AREA REGULATIONS***

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### ***Customary and Traditional Use Determination***

Kodiak Area - except the Semidi Island, the North Mainland, and the South Mainland sections — king crab — Residents of the Kodiak Island Borough except those residents on the Kodiak Coast Guard base.

### ***Regulations***

- Shellfish may be taken for subsistence purposes only under the authority of a subsistence shellfish fishing permit issued by the ADF&G.

- The operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel must obtain a subsistence fishing permit from the ADF&G before subsistence shrimp fishing during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp fishing district, section or subsection. The permit shall specify the area and the date the vessel operator intends to fish. No more than 500 pounds (227 kg) of shrimp may be in possession aboard the vessel.
- The daily harvest and possession limit is 12 male dungeness crab per person. There is no size limit.
- In the subsistence taking of king crab:
  - The daily harvest and possession limit is six male crab per person;
  - All crab pots used for subsistence fishing and left in saltwater unattended longer than a two-week period shall have all bait and bait containers removed and all doors secured fully open;
  - No more than five crab pots may be used to take king crab; each pot can be no more than 75 cubic feet in capacity;
  - King crab may be taken only from June 1 - January 31, except that the subsistence taking of king crab is prohibited in waters 25 fathoms or greater in depth during the period 14 days before and 14 days after open commercial fishing seasons for red king crab, blue king crab or tanner crab in the location.
  - The waters of the Pacific Ocean enclosed by the boundaries of Womans Bay, Gibson Cove, and an area defined by a line 1/2-mile on either side of the mouth of the Karluk River and extending seaward 3,000 ft., and all waters within 1,500 ft. seaward of the shoreline of Afognak Island are closed to the harvest of king crab except by Federally-qualified subsistence users.
- In the subsistence taking of tanner crab:
  - No more than five crab pots may be used to take tanner crab;
  - From July 15 - February 10, the subsistence taking of tanner crab is prohibited in waters 25 fathoms or greater in depth, unless the commercial tanner crab fishing season is open in the location;
  - The daily bag and possession limit is 12 male tanner crab per person. There is no size limit.

## ***ALASKA PENINSULA-ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA REGULATIONS***

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### ***Customary and Traditional Use Determination***

All rural residents.

### ***Regulations***

- Shellfish may be taken for subsistence purposes only under the authority of a subsistence shellfish fishing permit issued by the ADF&G.
- The operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel must obtain a subsistence fishing permit from the ADF&G prior to subsistence shrimp fishing during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp fishing district, section or subsection; the permit shall specify the area and the date the vessel operator intends to fish; no more than 500 pounds (227 kg) of shrimp may be in possession aboard the vessel.
- The daily bag and possession limit is 12 male dungeness crab per person.
- In the subsistence taking of king crab:

- The daily bag and possession limit is six male king crab per person;
- All crab pots used for subsistence fishing and left in saltwater unattended longer than a two-week period shall have all bait and bait containers removed and all doors secured fully open;
- Crab may be taken only from June 1 - January 31.
- The daily bag and possession limit is 12 male tanner crab per person.

## ***BERING SEA AREA REGULATIONS***

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### ***Customary and Traditional Use Determination***

All rural residents.

### ***Regulations***

- In waters south of 60° N. lat., shellfish may be taken for subsistence purposes only under the authority of a subsistence shellfish fishing permit issued by the ADF&G.
- In that portion of the area north of the latitude of Cape Newenham, shellfish may only be taken by shovel, jigging gear, pots and ring net.
- The operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel must obtain a subsistence fishing permit from the ADF&G prior to subsistence shrimp fishing during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp fishing district, section or subsection; the permit shall specify the area and the date the vessel operator intends to fish; no more than 500 pounds (227 kg) of shrimp may be in possession aboard the vessel.
- In waters south of 60° N. lat., the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male dungeness crab per person.
- In the subsistence taking of king crab:
  - In waters south of 60° N. lat., the daily bag and possession limit is six male crab per person;
  - All crab pots used for subsistence fishing and left in saltwater unattended longer than a two-week period shall have all bait and bait containers removed and all doors secured fully open;
  - In waters south of 60° N. lat., crab may be taken only from June 1 - January 31.
- In waters south of 60° N. lat., the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male tanner crab.